

XP-100
March 14, 1963
Sights
Scope

Mr. E. H. Hilliard, Jr.
Redfield Gun Sight Company
1315 So. Clarkson Street
Denver 10, Colorado

Dear Ed:

I expect by this time that you are well involved in the design and perhaps with full production of the new variable powered pistol type telescope. In testing with the Phantom scope and short mount versus the long mount, we have found the long mount to be definitely superior. Dave Bushnell furnished us first with short mounts which were in error and allowed a one point contact which caused the scope to rock from shot to shot and increased group size. I advised him to provide a two point bedding on the mount, and the group size was reduced approximately 30%. However, the mount he is using which is mounted to the front breech ring is not as stable as one we had made which bridges the gap between the front and rear breech ring. So would suggest that if you are considering the ultimate from the scope and pistol, the long mount would be the most desirable.

We have heard from several of the sports writers who have obtained phenomenal results with the new pistol and scope mounted in the manner I have mentioned. They have been getting group sizes from 1/2" to 1 1/4" in 5 shots at 100 yds. This is rifle accuracy, and will certainly make history, I believe. Here at the factory we test the pistol in a machine rest, and round for round it shoots as well and in some cases better than a rifle at 100 yds. I have observed numerous groups at 100 yd. target fired from these pistols, 5 shots, that do not exceed 3/8". You can imagine what the hand loaders with proper scope equipment will be able to obtain from this pistol combination.

I think your idea of the variable power will certainly be well received by the shooting public and will add an additional feature over your competitors. Your quality scopes are superb and that is the reason I have recommended them to our customers. I might mention there were two customers who had Model 700 Rifles in 7mm Caliber, one was to take his gun to Africa and the other to Canada for big game hunting, and I recommended your 3x9 power variable scope with the quick switch pivot type mount, but to my dismay discovered there would be

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an interference between the scope and barrel. We have corrected this by rebuilding the bottom base of these mounts, elevating the scope approximately ~~.0025"~~, and have adjusted the holes differently from the original design for positioning this combination. These customers were exceedingly satisfied with your quick switch mount and the new scope, and we will probably hear more from them as to results of their hunts.

I have a pet 375 Magnum rifle which I was altering for quick switch mounts with the available scopes I have. One of them is the old Stith Bear Cub without internal adjustment. I was wondering what kind of combination I could work out with this gun. About that time I received a package from you and on opening it found exactly what I need. Fortunately, 2x7 would fit my rifle as I have a heavy barrel in the chamber section, and 3x9 would not. I wish to express my appreciation for this gift, and I will certainly put it to good use. This will be a good test for the scope as well as for the quick switch mount. I don't know when I have been more pleased with such a fine combination.

Perhaps by this time you are well into the testing of your new pistol telescope with the Model XP-100 Pistol, and if you need any additional ammunition or parts, please advise. Also, if you have a scope and mount available for test I will be glad to oblige, of course keeping the information strictly confidential.

Thanks again for your fine gift, and you can rest assured we will do out utmost to aid you in your new development.

Sincerely yours,


W. E. Leek, Chief Designer - Firearms
Illion Research Division

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